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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1913

GENERAL G. W. C. LEE.

For the true elements of greatness that were his, and for his unselfish devotion to her as a soldier and citizen, Virginia mourns the death of General George Washington Custis Lee. The eldest son of a great sire, having many of his finest traits, he was the possessor of uncommon abilities and of noble qualities of character. To him as a soldier, his contemporaries, both in the "old army" of the United States and in the Confederate army, pay high tribute. A first honor graduate of West Point, he served in the United States Army with distinction until the hour came when, like his father, he offered his sword to Virginia. Restrained by staff duties in Richmond, he saw little service in the field until toward the final years of the struggle, but as a soldier in action he served with such distinguished conduct as to entitle him to even a loftier rank than the major-generalcy which he received.

Modesty in the highest degree was a characteristic of both General Robert E. Lee and his son who died yesterday. Neither sought promotion nor "reputation even in the cannon's mouth"; both always forgot self to think of others. It was the father's desire from the first that his son should be a soldier in the field, as it was the son's, but it was the will of President Davis that the son should serve as one of his staff officers, and so it came about that in the greater part of the war G. W. C. Lee was on staff duty, frequently acting as the method of communication between the Confederate President and Lee, the elder. In the spring of 1864, President Davis, through a distinguished general, sent a message to General Lee saying that he would order the son to a certain important command and would make him major-general or lieutenant-general, at the same time expressing an exalted opinion of the ability of the son as a soldier, but the father replied: "I am very much obliged to the President for his high opinion of Custis Lee, and I hope that he will prove himself not entirely unworthy of the President's high opinion. But he is an untried man. Against his will and my own, the President has kept him on his staff—and I will not take an untried man and promote him over my veteran officers, especially when that man is my own son." When General Ewell, after the fall of the line, protested that "the discipline preserved by General G. W. C. Lee in camp and on the march, and the manner in which he handled his troops in action, fully justified the request I had made for his promotion," President Davis replied: "that the only obstacle to be overcome was Lee's objection to receiving promotion." In the same connection Mr. Davis refers to his "valuable services" as a commander of the local troops for the defense of Richmond.

His offer to the Union government to substitute himself for his brother, General W. H. F. Lee, when the latter was held a hostage of war under sentence of death, because the latter had a wife and children, while he had none, was characteristic of the man, as was his attempt to give Arlington to his father and mother when it had been willed to him.

For more than three decades he enlisted himself in the cause of education in the South. For the first five years after Appomattox he was professor of mechanics and engineering at the Virginia Military Institute. In 1871 he succeeded his father as president of Washington and Lee, and until 1897 administered that institution in an eminently satisfactory manner, largely upon the lines laid down by his father.

He served the nation that was and the nation that is, faithful through all to his State. He did his duty simply and quietly wherever he found it. Virginia holds his memory in enduring honor.

OUR COLLOQUIAL EDITORIALS.

On Monday we received the following query: "Is not the first sentence in your leading editorial to-day incorrect? Ought not 'most' to be 'almost'?" This inquiry is not made in the effort to appear bookish, but for information.

The suspected sentence reads: "Most everybody in Richmond ought to visit the Automobile Show at least once." We rather imagine that the bookish man, the purist in English, would say that the word was not in "good use." Whether this constitutes what our critic calls "incorrectness" is largely a matter of temperament. The dictionary declares that "most" in the sense of almost, nearly, is perhaps short for "almost." The word is labeled "New colloquial or dialect."

In defense of our use, we urge that it is sometimes wise to mitigate the joy logic, brilliant style, and prepositional wisdom of our editorial by a touch of just plain common humanity. There are many sweet and gentle and impressive uses for the English tongue not always vouchered for by the dictionary. The language is not petrified, nor squeezed dry of all affection and humor. The so-called "good use" of the rhetorical means that the word is used by the most careful and conscientious writers of

the language. In fact, these meticulous persons are few in number. Most everybody else may use the expression constantly, heartily and forcibly. Almost nobody may obey the dictionary.

Our editorials are written to be read. They are directed at the people. We employed that "most" to give exactly the colloquial tone we felt the theme warranted. We are justified by the dictionary and the query of our precision. What jarred on him is what would make most people feel at home in the editorial. This page of The Times-Dispatch aims at the use of good English, but it is not going to sacrifice an individual way of expressing shades of emotion to the bonds of academic punctiliousness. The words are built to convey the thought and feeling. The thought and feeling are not to be cut to fit the words. We expect to deliver the goods with a punch, or adumbrate the chiaroscuro of our mauve moods, according to the good we can do, in each way.

DEMOCRATIC MONEY FOR DEMOCRATIC PURPOSES.

What would the City Democratic Committee of Richmond think if the National Democratic Committee, out of funds raised for the support and maintenance of the Democratic party and for legitimate aid in the election of its candidates, were to vote to use its surplus funds for giving a free trip to its members to Washington and return for Inauguration Day? Would it be right to apply Democratic money, collected by the Democratic party for Democratic uses, to giving a free ride to Washington for March 4, to Henry W. Dooley, our national committeeman for Porto Rico and a resident of San Juan, or to the national committeeman from Alaska, who lives so far away that he starts months ahead to get to the capital on time? Should the hard-earned money of Democrats be used to purchase free transportation for fifty-one committeemen from every State and Territory, save one, for mileage and expenses of committeemen from Arizona, Maine, Mississippi, Hawaii, Texas and other States and Territories.

Clyde W. Saunders, by a timely point of order, temporarily saved the City Democratic Committee Monday night from voting to give itself a junket to Washington for President Wilson's inaugural. When this matter comes up again next Monday night it ought to be buried overwhelmingly, no matter how the city employees who retain their membership on the committee in defiance of the Ferguson pernicious political activity ordinance vote. The City Democratic Committee can claim to have had no unusual interest in the incoming of a Democratic President as its justification in desiring to see him inaugurated into office when out of the \$2,000 it had in hand it contributed but \$100 toward his election. The fact that it expended \$2,700 in celebrating his victory supplies little additional consideration for such action on the part of the committee. What the committee does toward electing a Democratic President is the thing that counts.

The funds in possession of the City Democratic Committee constitute a trust fund, as Committeeman Myers pointed out Monday night, to be expended for Democratic purposes, and Democratic purposes The Times-Dispatch would define as those for the maintenance of the Democratic party, the expense of conducting its elections and of electing its candidates. Neither the City Committee nor any other Democratic committee can justly use its funds for a purpose so alien to its principles.

What is it that they have done that impels the stalwart sixteen who favor the trip to feel that they are entitled to a free visit to Washington at the expense of the Democratic party? Is it possible that the sixteen committeemen who voted for the junket—Messrs. Allen, Baber, Burnett, Davis, Fowkes, Fagan, Goode, Hodges, Jennings, Ladd, Mosby, Pulliam, Rogers, Redford, Sibbey and Steiner—is it possible that they do not know that if they are absent from the inauguration it can proceed anyway?

CAPTAIN MILLS, MISSOURIAN.

The Times-Dispatch shares with Captain Morgan Mills, of the Council Committee on Streets, a Missouri attitude toward the light and power service offered by the Henrico Company. We desire to be shown wherein the distribution system of two trunk lines furnishes the badly needed competition which is to be the sole benefit Richmond is to reap in return for the right to use all its streets and alleys. We also trust that the Street Committee will insist on being most completely shown before it approves of the proposal.

The route submitted as the first installation of the new service embraces two main trunk lines, one generally along Marshall Street, the other generally along Franklin and Cary. The single blue print furnished the committee shows no lateral service lines that might actually carry current from the trunk lines. We think Captain Mills is right in declaring that there is no guarantee here of any service save on the streets actually traversed. The committee decided to refer the question to the City Attorney for information as to whether the company could be required to serve all the territory claimed to be covered by these two lines without further ordinance by the Council. We do not see that any lateral territory is covered by these lines, nor do we see how the City Attorney can decide what they are supposed to cover. Do they cover all the section in between them? How far on each side of the main lines will the feeders be extended? In short, what service is the city going to get?

The recommendation of the City Engineer and the City Electrician is a step in the right direction. They contend that the company shall be re-

quired to file a detailed plan of exactly what they offer. This shall include the location of all poles and conduits, the number of wires and cables, with a plan of the lateral branches and the house distribution system. This is the manifest duty of the company. Nor is it an objection that the distribution system cannot be shown until it is known what places will use the service. It is the obligation of the company to show how each individual may be served in the territory they undertake to cover.

The Council can alter, enlarge or diminish the route first offered by the company. Since the Council justified its grant of the city streets on the theory of beneficial competition, it is that this competition be furnished. Richmond wants no foolishness or subterfuge in this matter. It wants no compromise in a merely formal compliance with the ordinance. Let real competition be given, or the franchise surrendered.

PROVOCATIVE CUBA.

The situation in Mexico seems to have somewhat obscured, in the eyes of both the American people and the administration, the fact that conditions and developments in Cuba are again heading towards provocation for intervention.

The insults of Senor Soto, heaped upon the American minister and the secretary of legation, are being applauded throughout the island, it is stated, and the dilatory course of the Cuban congress, in the matter of making amends has had the effect of stimulating greatly the spirit of disorder and the anti-American feeling. That this government has not been heard from in a peremptory voice and with no uncertain sound is being construed as an evidence of weakness and timidity, and that construction is bearing the fruit of discrediting the power and the disposition of the Havana authorities to keep faith with the United States as respects the terms on which we withdrew from the island.

It is even suggested that the possibility of our having to intervene in Mexico has been turned to the advantage of preparing the way for inciting Cuban turmoil, in the hope and the belief that we will have our hands too full with Mexico to deal with another "Cuban defiance" and anarchy-threatening evidence of ingratitude. The hope is fatuous and the belief dangerously ill founded.

Cuba has been a thorn in the side of this country ever since the "Black Warrior" affair and the Ostend manifesto, which advised absorption if necessary.

While there is now no appreciable American sentiment in favor of Cuban absorption or annexation, the American people are getting pretty tired of the ranking of that thorn. Our two interventions about measured the limit of their patience. The aim of the United States is long enough and strong enough to intervene successfully in both Cuba and Mexico at the same time. It would be wise and well for both the Cuban government and the Cuban masses to come, and come speedily, to a realization of this; for a third intervention in the island will be the last, and will mean the last of the Cuban republic.

THE CITY BUDGET.

The growing importance of the city as a centre of governmental activity is conclusively shown by recent reports of the Census Bureau. The gross indebtedness in 1910 of 184 of our principal cities, with a population of 30,000 or over, reached the enormous total of \$2,429,000,000. This sum was more than twice the debt of the Federal government for the same year, and only slightly less than the total indebtedness of the United States government at the close of the Civil War. The increasing cost of city government is shown by the fact that during the period 1902-1910, the revenues of 145 leading cities advanced 66 per cent and disbursements 107 per cent. That the individual city dweller had to bear an added burden of taxation is also indicated by an increase in revenue receipts per capita by these cities from \$20.12 in 1902 to \$27.24 in 1910, or an advance of 34 per cent. Expenses of conducting these city governments per capita also increased 25 per cent during the period 1902-1910. The revenue collected by the city of New York alone during the year 1910 was more than the total receipts of the Federal government in the year 1864. During recent years city governments have found it necessary to spend constantly increasing amounts for educational and developmental work, and this tendency will probably become even more pronounced in the future.

The new Mayo Bridge is said to be two-thirds completed. It will be ready for use by July 12 next, according to the contractor. Yet, before it can become really serviceable to the city, approaches must be built, streets widened, car lines arranged for, and many small, but important, details settled. It is time for the immediate consideration of these matters. The weather and the contractors have taken plenty of time. The Administrative Board should worry.

Congress, having done nothing for a year or so, now seizes upon the trouble in Mexico to do some more nothing. Why an excuse at this date?

When the six-year term law is passed, the evil will be all the officeholders wasting the public's time trying to figure out who the next President will be.

There are really the melancholy days. It is too hot to work and not hot enough to go fishing.

There may be wars, and rumors of wars, strikes, plagues and revolutions, but, thank Providence, the farmer is going right ahead with spring plowing.

The fellow that wears spectacles kin carouse around all right an' look like he'd jist written a history o' the world when he comes t' work in th' mornin'. A sorrow will float in alcohol.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Luck.

Ah nevah cotched a train on time, Ah nevah won a single dime, Er diamonds fell out of de sky, Ah'd sho'ly be in jail, Nobody hands no flowahs to me, At de am very plain to see, De only way what de rich case am jes' dis yero one, "Fall," Ah've had mos' every know disease; Ah've nevah had no chance fo' ease; Ah but yo' wo'k six days a week or shahve to deff, dat's all.

No easy graft comes 'long mah way; P' what Ah gits, Ah has to pay, Ah never has a cent mah up when et comes 'long tow-d fall, Dere ain't no luck fo' r' yer coon; Ah might as well call fo' de moon; But still, dere in one happy thought what makes me feel less blue, While Ah am moun'in' of mah lot, An' thinkin' mah Ah hasn't got, De same applies to jes' about mos' everybody, too.

According to Uncle Abner.

It will soon be time for Mr. Taft to March 4th.

Lem Higgins says he nearly died of starvation once, when he was a young man, but the Governor's pardon arrived just in time.

There never was so many good fellows Democrats in this country as there are at the present time.

There will never be a shortage in the crop of funny looking derbies.

There are still a few old-fashioned fellows who try to make both ends meet.

A woman cares more about the price of lace curtains than she does about the price of beefsteak or coal.

A convict out in Minnesota has become a poet. In other words, he has gone mad to verse.

There is many a man called a merchant prince when he is in reality a merchant quince.

Whiskey will never harm you if you don't swallow it.

It begins to look as if the chiny prince Albert once had to work harder.

Speaking of color schemes, many a girl may remember an angel in Alice blue, but still look like Helen pink.

If you have a gold watch that will not run, you can easily make it do so by melting it.

Amry Tibbs, who is out West, is not expected to live. The jury returned a verdict of "guilty."

There is only one harder thing to listen to than a sopranner with a cold in the head, and that is a phonograph with sand in the grooves.

The trouble in this country is that they are breaking too many aeroplane records and not enough talkin' machine records.

The fellow that plays the peccole in the orchestra may have to work harder than the fellow that plays the base viol, but he doesn't have so much to carry home after the concert.

It seems as though when a fellow can't make up his mind just what he wants to do in this world, he goes into the insurance business.

Hank Tumms says the hardest fellow he knows of to outstart is the one that is on the water wagon and doesn't smoke or chew, play cards or talk about his neighbors.

Deacon Stubbs has got a new hat that is made of hair and not her own. But on another's head was grown, But I didn't know that.

Had a complexion like arose, Which in the florist's garden grows; Its like I'd never seen before, Of course, she bought it at a store, But I didn't know that.

Her mouth a perfect -- s bow; 'Twould make a chronic bachelor go And straightaway jump into the lake. Of course, it was a pencilled face, But I didn't know that.

So modest she appeared to be, I asked her out to dine with me; She knows of no ornament is the one, Of course she had not her own, But on another's head was grown, But I didn't know that.

She said I surely made a hit, I knew of no doubt of it, She'd told that over and over again To many, many other men, But I didn't know that.

'Twas then I made a fervent plea, I said: "Fair maid, let's wed," she said: "I would like to, but, tee hee, My grandchildren would not let me," But I didn't know that.

Dead Willing.

I surely want my will to vote; Oh, yes, indeed I do; Quite long enough I've been the goat, And that is very true, When issues do not go aright, I surely want my will to vote, For I'm responsible, yes, quite, Because I vote, you see, I'm simply waiting for the day, Like lots of other men, To see her fit a vote go astray, And hear what she'll say then.

Voice of the People

The Bible in the Public Schools.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—The article in your paper of recent date by the pastor of the Seventh Street Christian Church on the above subject was read with interest by the public.

This minister is right, God bless him! The importance of heart as well as mind training cannot be overestimated. Our highest institutions of learning—the leading colleges of our country—are falling down by neglect of this important subject, heart training, and are turning out young

Abe Martin

CERTIFIED IN ALL FASHION'S RATES OPEN

LITTLE GEM RESTAURANT

The fellow that wears spectacles kin carouse around all right an' look like he'd jist written a history o' the world when he comes t' work in th' mornin'. A sorrow will float in alcohol.

THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY THE COLD WEATHER.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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men totally unfit for the highest ideals of life; no life can reach its highest ideals if God and His holy word are neglected.

There is an influence that comes from Bible reading that makes an impression for good on the mind of youth, that goes all through life; this influence is so necessary in the formation of character that it is indispensable, and it cannot be had away from the Bible. The mind of youth is quick and plastic; hence, early impressions last long.

Bible reading in the public schools, while it may be discouraging to the teachers, and at times seem a failure, yet it is the word of God, and it is that word, hence impressions for good will result when that word is read. We cannot estimate the value of Bible reading both in the public school and in the home. Home life is so important; as is the home, so is the State; as the State, the nation. The Bible is the code of morals for the home, hence the nation; neglect this code of morals in the home and the public schools, and we have a debased people. Statistics prove this. Go to the State institutions for criminals, old and young, and you find the greater percent of those who are in there had but little contact with Bible influence. No Bible in the home, no Bible in the school, no Bible in the church, no Bible in the State, hence criminals.

The divorce evil, which is cursing our land, is the result, many times, of neglect of the Word of God, that which says to young men and women starting in life, "First seek ye the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (the necessary things for happiness) shall be added unto you." The Bible is not regarded, hence family quarrels and divorces. Marriage in so many cases is a money making life, and the children are left out; hence a downward life. The whiskey traffic, the curse of our nation, is the direct enemy of the Bible, and the home and the school. These evils, which make life miserable, don't thrive where the Bible lives.

The time has come for thinking people to take notice. Who opposes the Bible in the public schools? Who opposes the book of all books? The high state of our civilization, with all its institutions, its hospitals, its homes for the aged and incurables, charity, which suffers long, and is kind, which makes us our brother's keeper, all have their origin in the Bible, Richmond, and the city of churches and high morals, yet, like other large cities, there is a trend on the part of many citizens to make life miserable, don't thrive where the Bible lives.

The law of God—that law which says: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Many of our citizens are violating the Sabbath in the sale of candy, cigars and soda water. This is a curse among us, our young people are growing up with but little regard for the holy Sabbath. There is a city where the boys of to-day must be the men of to-morrow, and the demoralizing influence now tolerated by city authorities (not intentional, perhaps) in the sale of cigarettes, candy and soda water on the holy Sabbath, will be far-reaching in its effect. Surely the officers of the law who violate the Sabbath is desecrated. If sworn duty is performed conditions will be changed.

Let the Bible be read in the public schools; it is right; the Sabbath be observed; let God be honored, and we will be a happy people.

Richmond.

S. E. RICHARDSON.

About Arlington Confederate Monument.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—The monument of Arlington, Va., Committee, Presidents of the Chapter, U. D. C. and Confederate Daughters of Virginia.

The time is rapidly coming when our good people hope to be present at the unveiling of Arlington Monument, as your director, I appeal to you to be ready, holding up Virginia, as she certainly deserves.

We are leading our sister States in this noble work, and are willing to make any proper sacrifice to accomplish our good work. Mr. Wallace Streator, our national treasurer, and also Colonel Herbert, wrote me that they hoped to be here by July 4th, and that the monument was a beautiful ceremony. The National Convention, U. D. C., was then in session, and it was an occasion that made many very happy. These gentlemen think July will be the month when all will be invited to Washington to witness the unveiling. We have already sent to our treasurer over \$2,000 this year. I cannot thank my people enough for that kind consideration of me and their loyalty to our native State. May be so to the end, and may we have much to be thankful for.

Your grateful director,
MRS. THOS. P. BOGOCK.

Mr. Jefferson's Religion.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—In your article on "The Religion of the President," in yesterday's paper, Jefferson was omitted. While not a member of the Episcopal Church, he was an Episcopalian, as can be easily proved. Judge Dwyer, of Charlottesville, owns Jefferson's "Book of Common Prayer," in Jefferson's own handwriting on a flyleaf is a T. A. & B. Bray's paraphrase of the fifteenth Psalm, which Jefferson said made up the best definition of a gentleman.

Richmond.

EPISCOPALIAN.

Views of the Virginia Editors

Thank You, Sir.

There is hardly a newspaper plant in the South better equipped than that of The Richmond Times-Dispatch. Quite recently the owners of The Times-Dispatch moved into their new building, which was erected at a great expense and which is especially adapted for newspaper work. We are glad to note this sign of prosperity on the part of The Times-Dispatch and wish it much success. While not always agreeing with the editorial policy of our contemporary, we are frank to confess that The Times-Dispatch usually gets there with the news of the world.—Clifton Forge Review.

Cleaned Up Food, Too.

Friday was observed as "clean-up day" at Shenandoah School. Only half of the day was used for cleaning up and the forepart of the day school was carried on as usual, with the exception of a dinner. Cooking, which was done by Misses Nora Pulk and Kathryn Shumaker. Each child came to school bringing along a potato, and flour and meat was furnished and was cooked, making one large cooking kettle full of an old-time potpie. The other was filled with potatoes. After these were all cooked, a long table was made by the boys and on it was placed all of these potatoes and potpie, along with cakes, jellies, butter, pickles, etc., prepared by the good mothers and sent with the children. Everybody brimming over with joy surrounded the table (twenty-eight pupils and teacher) and heartily partook of the nourishing feast.—Genoa Correspondence Harrisonburg News.

Uncle Samantha.

Since the discovery by Miss Mary J. Loston that the American eagle is a hen, we may look for Uncle Sam to be off his whiskers, announce that he has been in disguise all his time, sing the Star Spangled Banner as a soprano solo and draw from his pocket a powder rag, a sample of dress goods and a clipping from the Ladies' Home Journal telling "how to Acquire a Perfect Bust."—Roanoke Times.

Lincoln.

On this, the day that will be celebrated as the one hundred and fourth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, it is a good thing to feel that his observance kinder no old animosities; recalls no old grudges and passions and hates; suggests no sources of bitterness and rancor between the North and South, but that the occasion be honored in every State of the Union with earnest and sincere respect for the man to whom it was largely given to pilot the nation through the stress and storm and confusion incident to four years of destructive war among its own people. All of which but goes to emphasize the already generally accepted truth that Abraham Lincoln's high place in history is secured by the South as well as by the North in genuine deep-seated, earnest recognition given of the real greatness of the man in his purpose, ideals, character, statesmanship, achievement, and in all the nobler attributes that make up the timber of a mighty manhood. People down this way have long since ceased to view the War-President through the sadly blurred lens of sectional animosity. They see him now with clear vision; they appraise him with unwarping, unbiased judgment, and freely and generously accord him the distinction of having been one of the loftiest figures in all American history.—Lynchburg News.

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